

Journal

Office of Legislative Counsel

Monday - 1 June 1959

1. Telephoned Senator John Sherman Cooper's office and talked with his Administrative Assistant, Lee C. White, concerning a Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission award to a Brazilian type. Mr. White indicated that Senator Cooper had not met formally with the executive group of the Commission. However, White would take up the matter with the Senator to assist us on the timing aspects.

2. Telephoned Ed McCabe in the White House to discuss the possibility of the Director meeting with appropriate White House representatives on the various Freedom Commission bills. McCabe volunteered the fact that Senator Mundt had been shopping around seeking information on the idea and McCabe had suggested that Mundt see the DCI. McCabe thought it was unnecessary for him to sit in any meeting between CIA and White House representatives. McCabe was advised that the Director was seeing Mundt on Thursday, 4 June.

3. Talked with Robert Merriam in the White House and advised him of CIA conversations with Representative Charles E. Bennett of Florida who had introduced a Freedom Commission bill identical to H. R. 3880. Bennett apparently has no real interest in the bills although he generally favors the objectives and stated he merely did it at the urging of the Orlando group and his colleague, Representative Herlong. I indicated to Merriam that the Director was seeing Senator Mundt on Thursday. Merriam thought it might be desirable if we could chat with Representative Judd and I indicated I was going to make the effort. Considering these moves, Merriam believed it would be more appropriate to have CIA and White House representatives meet early next week in which event CIA would have more information and the matter can then be discussed more thoroughly.

4. John Hogland in State Department Congressional Relations telephoned advising that he had seen Representative Laurence Curtis on the Oscar Boline case. Curtis seemed to accept the facts of the case but indicated he would need a letter. Since purportedly Army personnel were involved, it was agreed that the case should be discussed with the Army.